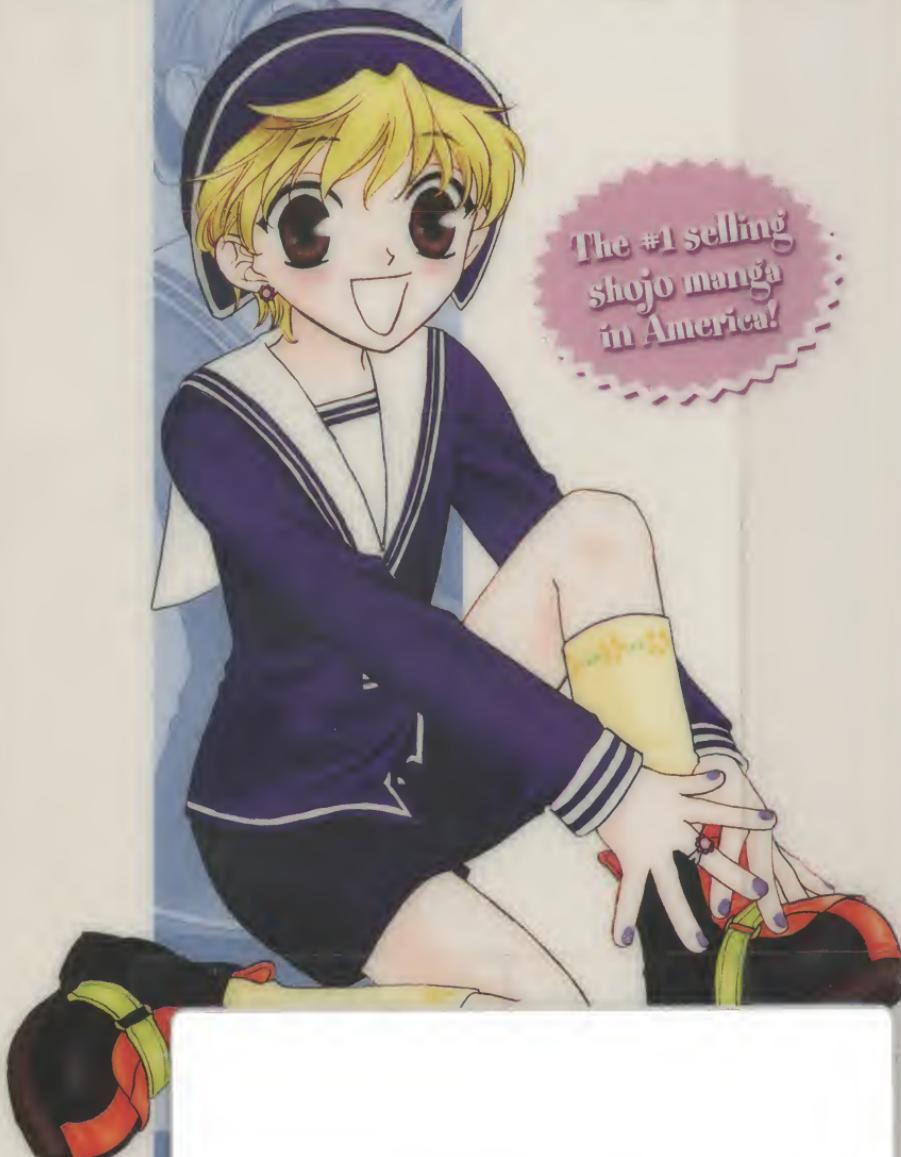


# Fruits Basket

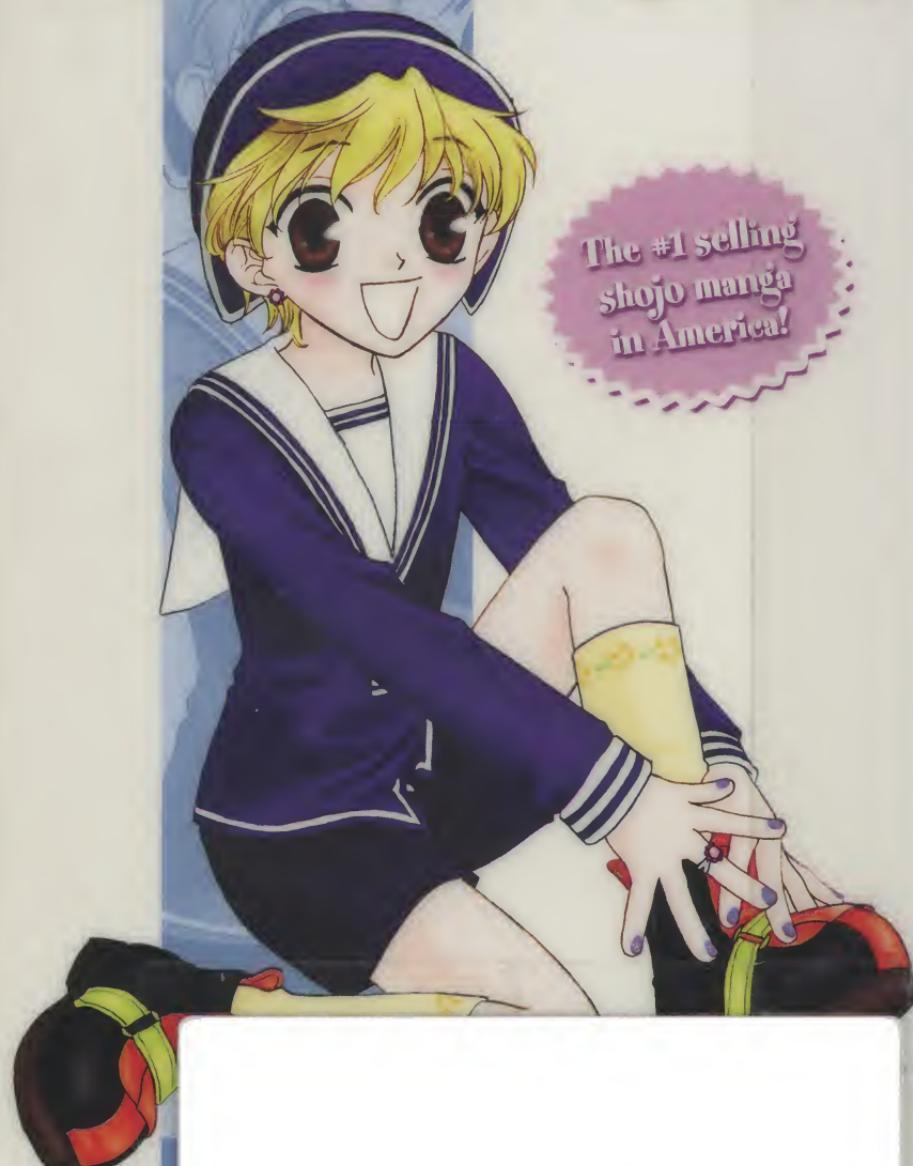
The #1 selling  
shojo manga  
in America!



6

Natsuki Takaya

# Fruits Basket™



The #1 selling  
shojo manga  
in America!

6

Natsuki Takaya

# Fruits Basket

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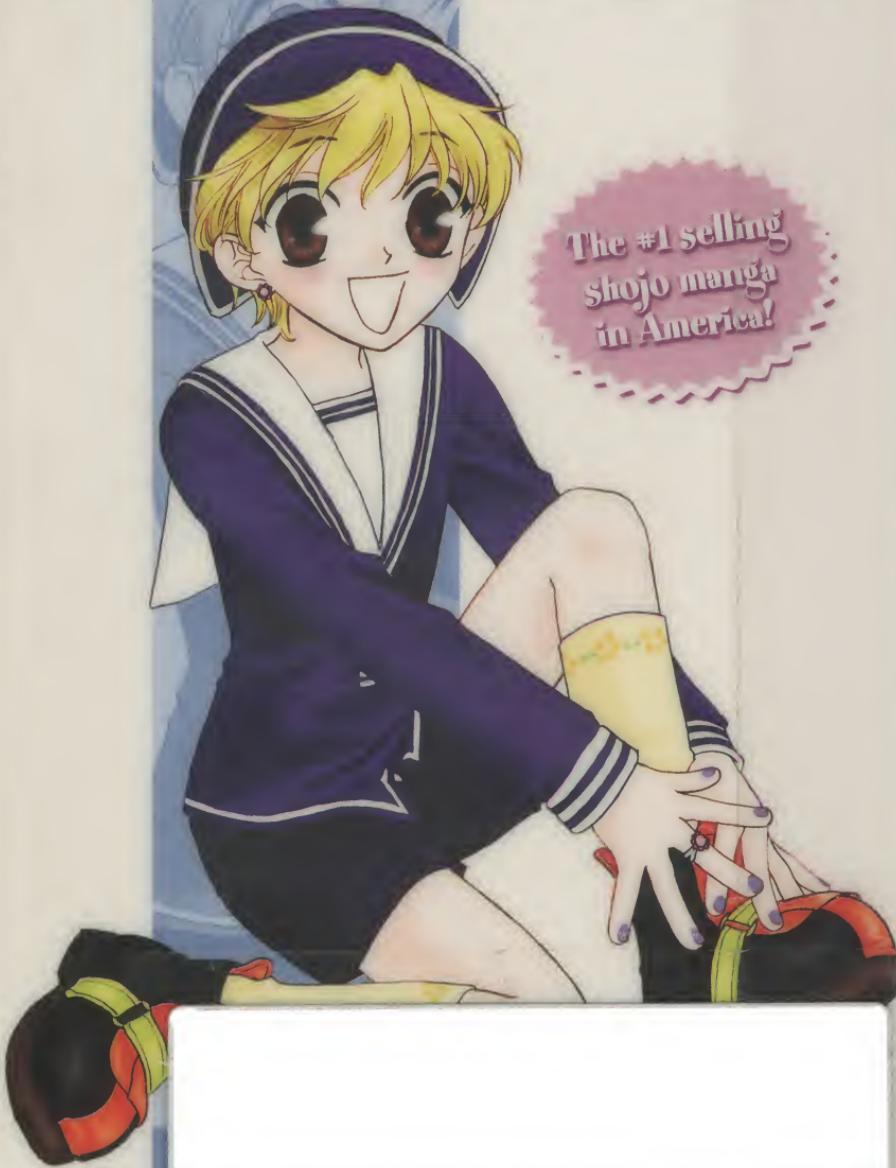


6

Natsuki Takaya

# Fruits Basket

The #1 selling  
Shojo manga  
in America!



6

Makoto Takaya

**Delving into the recesses of Kyo's past, we find the Sohma trio returning home on a rainy day. There, a mysterious man who has known Kyo for a long time meets them. Trust, loyalty and the bonds of family and friendship are tested, as Tohru must help Kyo deal with the "monsters" that he's been trying to avoid.**



Delving into the recesses of Kyo's past, we find the Sohma trio returning home on a rainy day. There, a mysterious man who has known Kyo for a long time meets them. Trust, loyalty and the bonds of family and friendship are tested, as Tohru must help Kyo deal with the "monsters" that he's been trying to avoid.



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# Fruits Basket™

Volume 6



Natsuki Takaya

## STORY SO FAR...

Hello, I'm Tohru Honda, and I have come to know a terrible secret. After the death of my mother, I was living by myself in a tent when the Sohma family took me in. I soon learned that the Sohma family lives with a curse! Each family member is possessed by the vengeful spirit of an animal from the Chinese Zodiac. Whenever one of them becomes weak or is hugged by a member of the opposite sex, they change into their Zodiac animal!



# Fruits Basket™

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# Fruits Basket Characters



## Kagura Sohma, the Boar

Bashful, yet headstrong. Determined to marry Kyo, even if it kills him.



## Tohru Honda

The ever-optimistic hero of our story. An orphan, she now lives in Shigure's house, along with Yuki and Kyo, and is the only person outside of the family who knows the Sohma family's curse.

## Momiji Sohma, the Rabbit

Half-German. He's older than he looks. Mother rejected him because of the Sohma curse.



## Hatsuharu Sohma, the Ox

The nicest of guys, except when he goes "Black." Then you'd better watch out.



## Akito Sohma

The head of the Sohma clan. A dark figure of many secrets. Treated with fear and reverence.



## Tohru's Best Friends

## Kisa Sohma, the Tiger

Kisa became shy and self-conscious due to constant teasing by her classmates. Yuki, who has similar insecurities, feels particularly close to Kisa.



## Saki Hanajima

"Hana-chan." Can sense people's "waves." Goth demeanor scares her classmates.

## Arisa Uotani

"Uo-chan." A tough-talking "Yankee" who looks out for her friends.



## Mabudachi Trio

## Shigure Sohma, the Dog

Enigmatic, mischievous and a little perverted. A popular novelist.



## Hatori Sohma, the Dragon

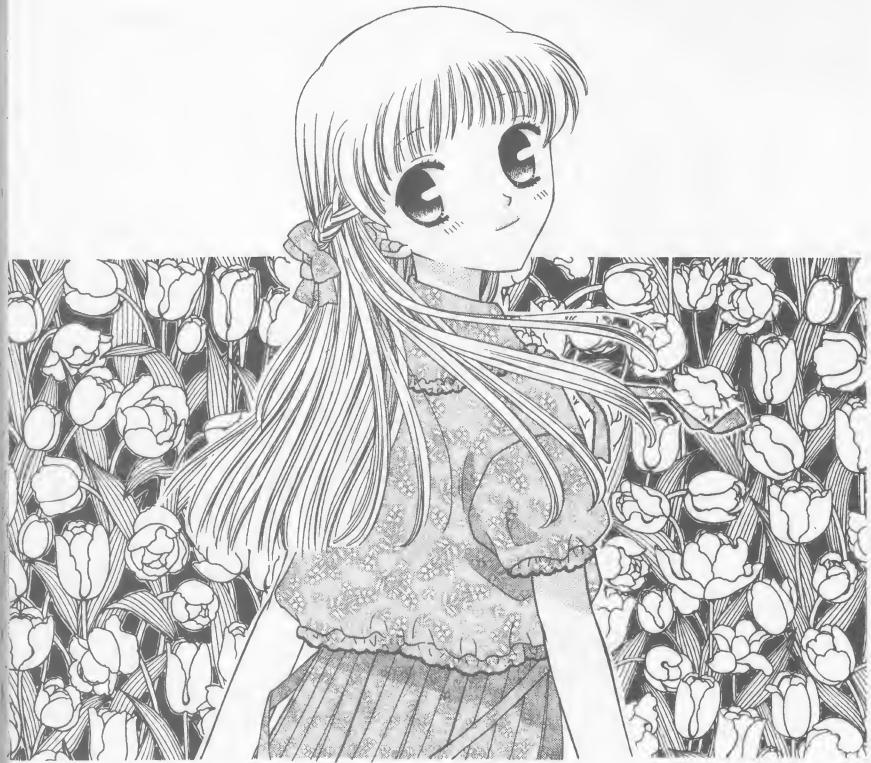
Family doctor to the Sohma. Only thing he can't cure is his broken heart.



## Ayame Sohma, the Snake

Yuki's older brother. A proud and playful drama queen...er, king. Runs a costume shop.





# Fruits Basket

TM

## Chapter 31



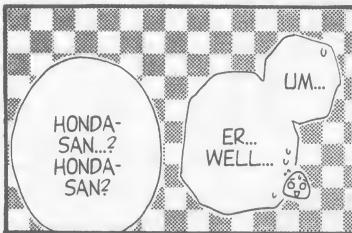
### ULTRA-SPECIAL BLAH BLAH BLAH 1

I've been going through some hard times lately. And on top of that, I had a fever of over 105°. It's like Punch, Punch, Kick! By the way, I tend to get sick on rainy days.

out of energy ↴



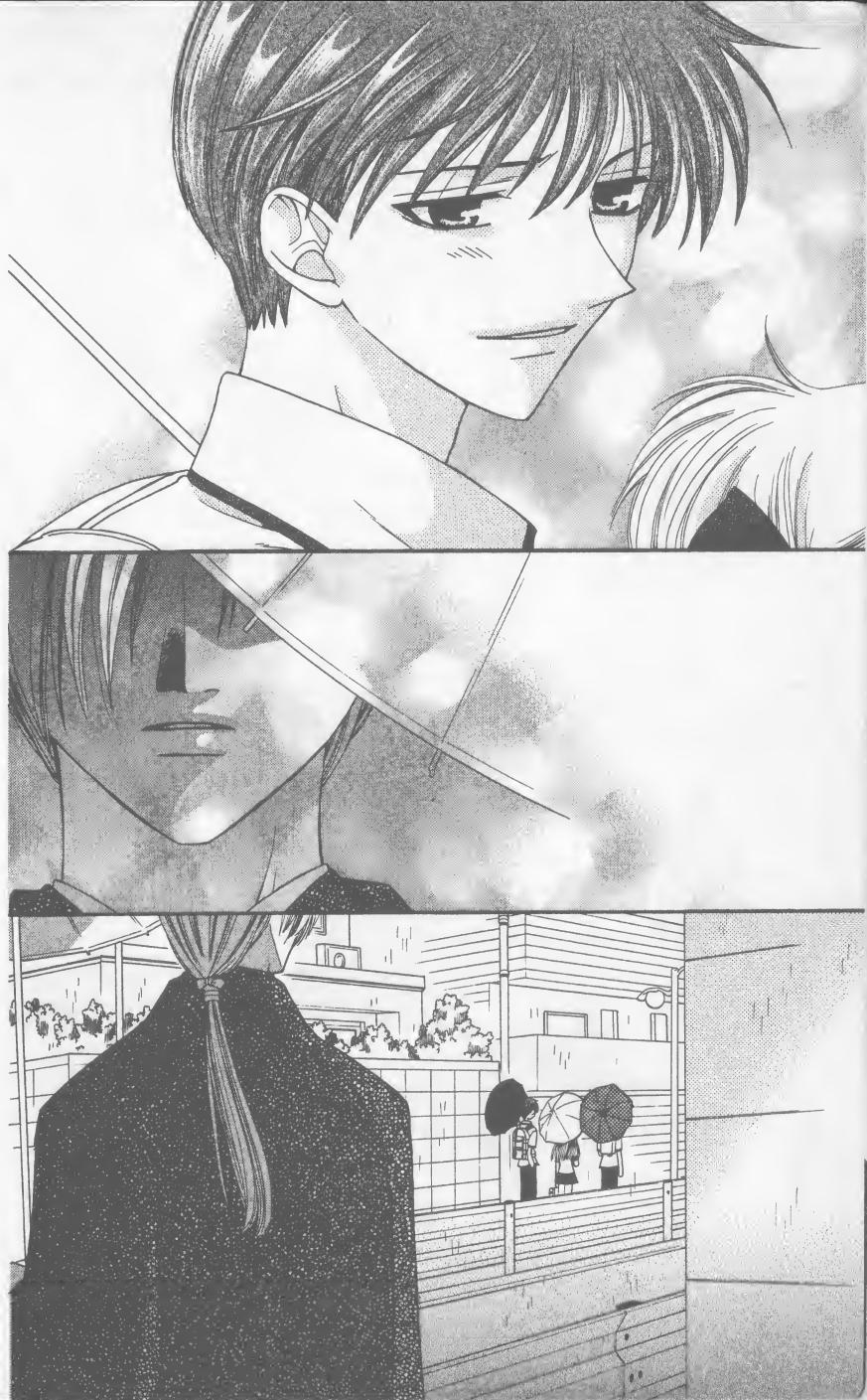
\*awkward silence





Fruits Basket 6  
Part 1:

Hajimemashite and hello! I'm Takaya. Furuba has made it to the sixth volume. That means it's been almost two years since I started drawing it. Woooow... (Gazing into the distance.) So the Volume 6 cover features Momiji. You know, Momitchi! He looks very young, but inside, he's the most mature of his generation of Sohmas. Right? "He had to be mature to deal with his youthful appearance and parental situation, right?" Well, yeah. It's kinda sad that way. But I also made him that way because it's cute! Recently, my hand hasn't been doing very well, so my handwriting is harder to read than usual, so gomen nasai. (I'm sorry!) Please enjoy Volume 6.











blush

THAT IS, IF YOU DON'T MIND THE USUAL PLACE.

...IF THE DAY COMES WHEN I'M ALLOWED TO KNOW THEIR SECRETS...

BUT...

LET'S GO ON A DATE.

C'MON.

OKAY

...I WANT TO BE THE KIND OF PERSON WHO CAN ACCEPT THEM FOR WHO THEY ARE.

IT'S FUNNY.

AFTER ALL THIS TIME...

...THERE'S STILL SO MUCH I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THEM.

EH  
?!  
NO, I COULDN'T POSSIBLY!

UH... UM...

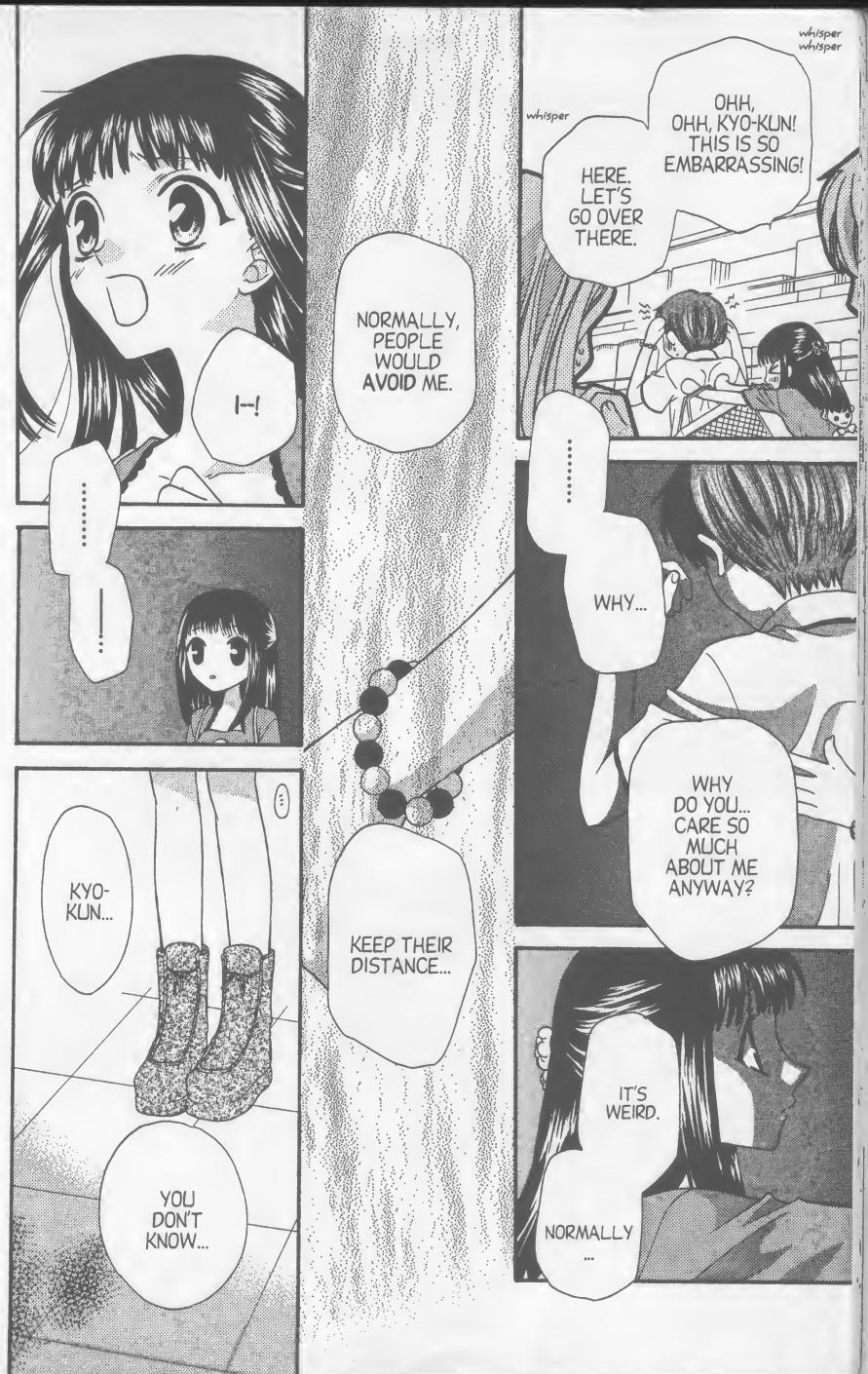
DON'T BOTHER. I THINK IT WILL START RAINING AGAIN SOON.

MORE IMPORTANTLY, YOU DON'T OFTEN GET THE OPPORTUNITY, TOHRU-KUN, SO WHY DON'T YOU GO ON A DATE WITH YUKI-KUN?

UM...

I SHOULD... UH... START THE LAUNDRY!

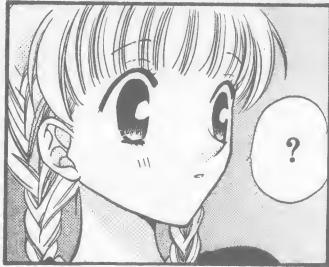








11



200

?





People say to use everything...

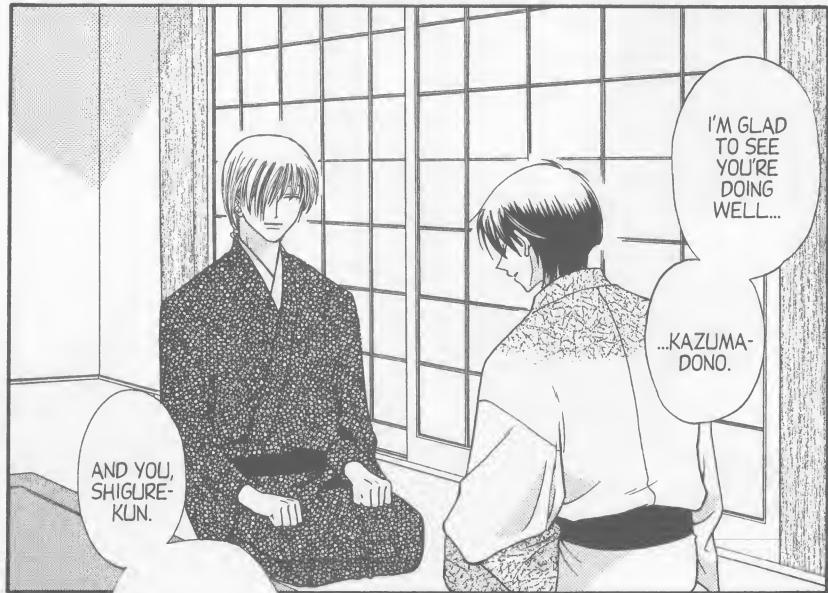


Like pictures that you can only see online and stuff. Like Momiji, I put a lot of my own preferences into Kisa. It's really fun to draw her. I'm a real girly-girl at heart, so I would have liked to try wearing flowy dresses or maid outfits at least once, but it looks like that dream will go unfulfilled (laugh). Too bad.



# Chapter 32

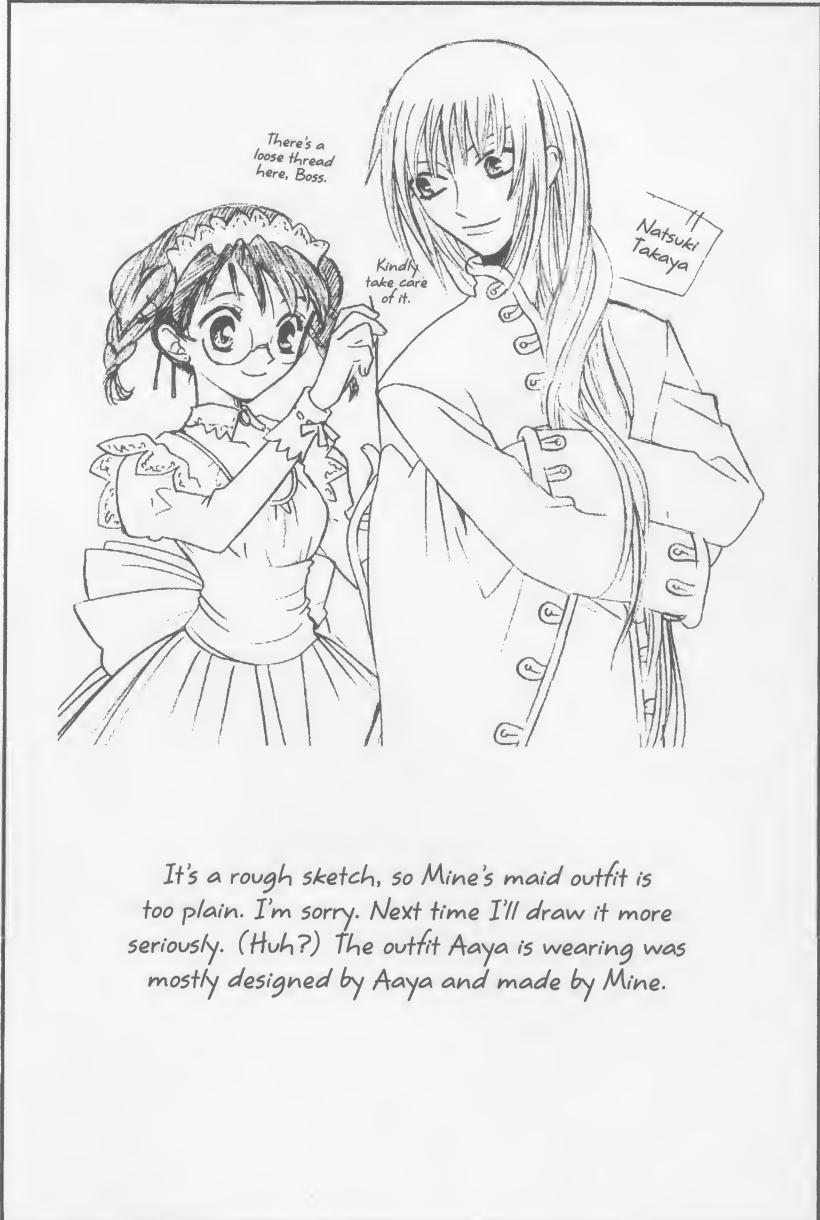




## ULTRA-SPECIAL BLAH BLAH BLAH 2

There are those who think, "I don't need them to love everything about me..." And there are others who think that, "I want them to love everything." Both are valid points of view. I really can't say one way is better than the other. Both exist. Kyo is the former.

People say to use...

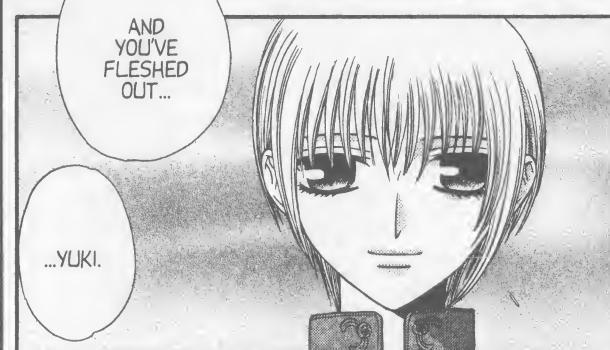


It's a rough sketch, so Mine's maid outfit is too plain. I'm sorry. Next time I'll draw it more seriously. (Huh?) The outfit Aaya is wearing was mostly designed by Aaya and made by Mine.

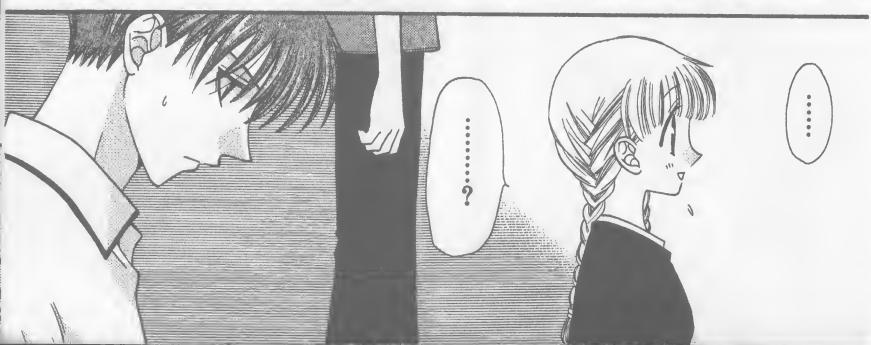
Fruits Basket 6  
Part 2:

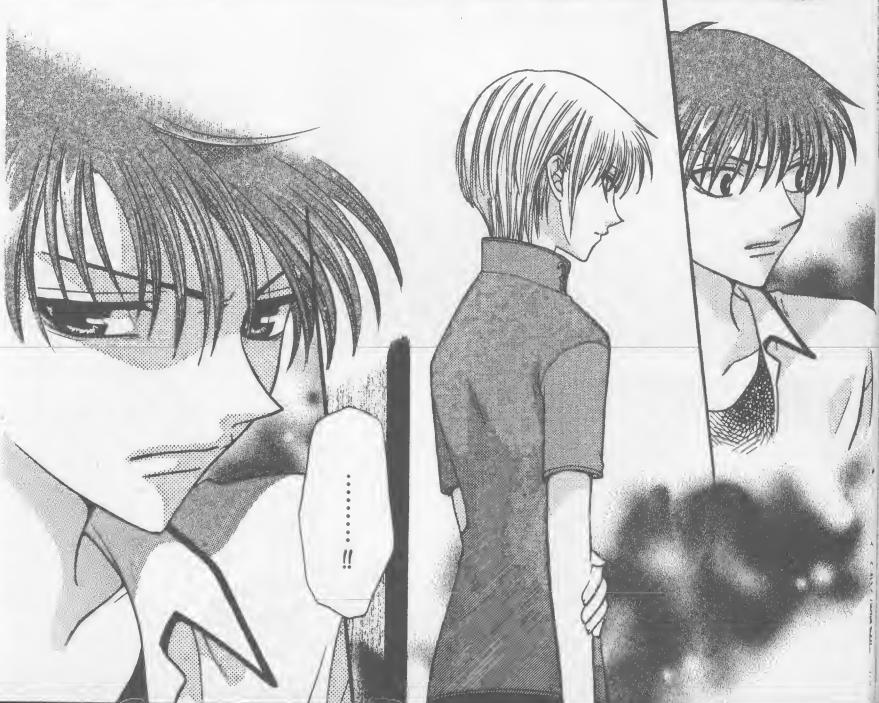
A lot of people have told me, "It's okay to talk about games!" I'm glad. And so, without delay... (laugh) I finally finished PERSONA 2: INNOCENT SIN. (I had stopped in the middle.) I stopped right before the last boss, like with the first game. I wonder if it's inevitable...? For me, it is. I really liked Ginko. She was so cute when she said, "Arya" and stuff. Sadly, my Playstation is on its last legs, so during the ending song, it started skipping (laugh). Talk about Arya. Letting the credits go without sound... I'm playing ETERNAL PUNISHMENT on my PS2. (laugh)

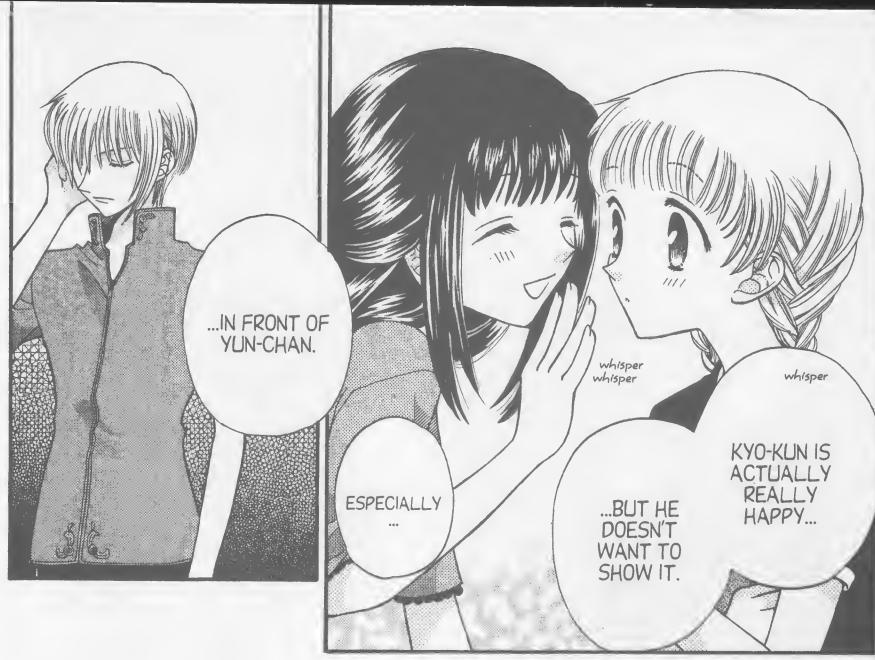
(INNOCENT SIN and ETERNAL PUNISHMENT are both sequels to the sleeper hit RPG PERSONA. Only ETERNAL PUNISHMENT was released in the U.S. -ed.)



"ohisashiburi: The reason everyone is saying "It's been a long time," is because in Japan, there is a ritual phrase, "ohisashiburi," which is used when greeting someone you haven't seen in a while. It's similar to the way Japanese folk always say "Okaeri" (welcome home) when someone comes home, or "itadakimasu" (thanks for the food) before eating.









I'M GLAD  
TO SEE  
YOU, TOO.

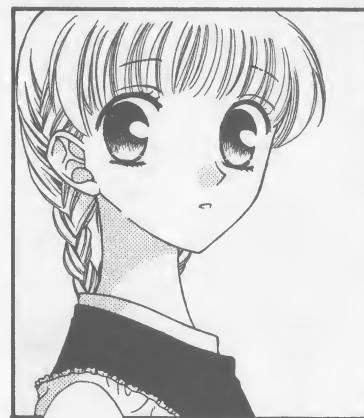
...IS SHISHOU-SAN NOT  
ONE OF THE  
ZODIAC?

SO...

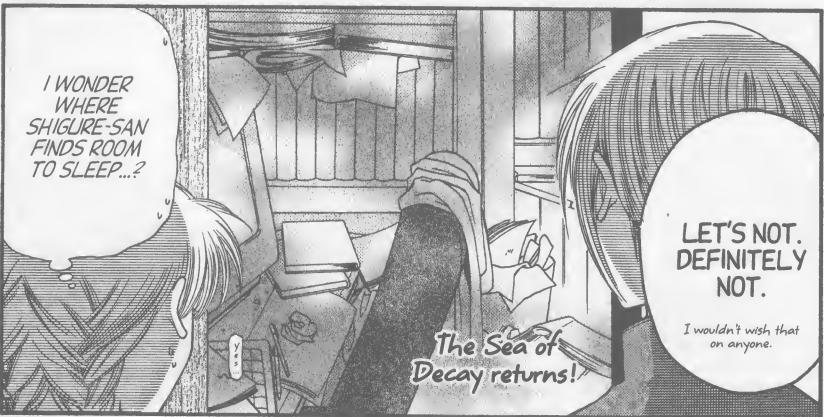


WELCOME  
BACK!

WELCOME  
BACK,  
SHISHOU!!







KYO...



THINGS  
MIGHT  
GET  
NOISY.

I APOLOGIZE  
IN ADVANCE.

TONIGHT  
...  
...I'M GOING  
TO TAKE  
IT OFF.

...I THOUGHT  
THAT, FOR  
HER, HE  
MIGHT OPEN  
HIS HEART.

AND  
THAT SHE,  
IN TURN,  
MIGHT  
ACCEPT IT.

...IS TO  
DO THIS  
NOW.

AND THE  
ONLY WAY  
TO SEE IF  
THIS IS THE  
CASE...

WHAT  
MADE  
YOU COME  
TO THAT  
DECISION SO  
SUDDENLY?

ISN'T  
THAT A  
LITTLE  
RASH?

TODAY,  
WHEN I  
SAW...

...THAT  
GIRL'S  
FACE...

TODAY...

SOMEDAY I  
WOULD REALLY  
LIKE TO SEE...

...A MATCH  
BETWEEN  
YOU AND  
SHISHOU-  
SAN!

...I  
DON'T.

THE TWO OF  
YOU MUST  
HAVE A LOT  
TO TALK  
ABOUT, KYO-  
KUN.

AH!

OH YEAH.  
UM... IF I  
COULD...

Honda-  
san, what  
should I  
do with  
this?  
Ah! Yes, that's



"NNNN... IT  
LOOKS LIKE  
I STILL  
NEED A LOT  
OF TRAINING,  
TOO."

"HA  
HA!"

"LOOK AT  
IT! HOW  
THE HECK  
COULD YOU  
SCREW UP  
SOMETHING  
SO SIMPLE,  
SHISHOU?"

YOU  
REALLY  
ARE NO  
GOOD AT  
THIS."

EXCUSE ME,  
BUT TONIGHT  
MAY I BORROW  
SOME OF YOUR  
TIME?

EVEN SO, I  
WANT TO  
TAKE THE  
CHANCE...

...ON  
HER.

EVEN  
SO...

HE MIGHT  
COME TO  
HATE EVEN  
YOU.

SO  
EVEN YOU,  
KAZUMA-  
DONO, ARE  
GOING TO  
ENTRUST  
EVERY-  
THING...

...TO  
HER?

BUT...

...YOU  
HAVE NO  
GUARANTEE  
THAT THIS  
WILL  
SUCCEED.

EVEN IF  
SHE DOES  
ACCEPT HIM,  
IT'S POSSIBLE  
THAT KYO WILL  
REJECT HER.

WITH SO  
MUCH AT  
STAKE...

...ARE YOU  
STILL  
WILLING TO  
TAKE THE  
ONE IN TEN-  
THOUSAND  
CHANCE?

HE MAY  
NEVER...

AW MAN!

...SMILE  
AGAIN.

THIS TIME,  
THERE IS THE  
POSSIBILITY  
THAT KYO  
WILL BREAK.

I ACCEPT THAT  
MY LIFE IS  
WORTHLESS  
BECAUSE I WAS  
BORN THE CAT!



SHISHOU...  
WELL...

DO WE  
REALLY  
HAVE TO GO  
OUTSIDE TO  
TALK?

YOU KNOW  
HOW I GET  
ON DAYS  
LIKE THIS.



IS IT  
BECAUSE  
YOU ARE  
POSSESSED  
BY THE  
CAT?



IS IT  
BECAUSE THE  
VENGEFUL  
SPIRIT OF YOUR  
TRUE FORM  
HATES THE  
RAIN?

BECAUSE  
THIS GIRL  
MAYBE  
THE ONE.

PLEASE

PLEASE...  
FOR KYO.



...IS THAT  
THE WAY  
YOU WANT  
TO DIE?

AND...

COMPLETELY  
ALONE.

LIKE MY  
GRANDFATHER.

IT'S THAT  
YOU'RE  
AFRAID. YOU  
WANT TO  
RUN AWAY.

BUT  
THAT'S  
NOT IT....  
IT'S NOT  
THAT YOU  
HATE IT.

...THAT YOU  
HATE IT  
HERE.

YOU SAID  
YOURSELF...

ARE YOU  
GOING TO  
CONTINUE TO  
LIVE THAT  
WAY...

...EVEN  
NOW?

"IF I DIE TOO,  
YOU'LL BE  
SATISFIED,  
RIGHT?!"

"IT'S HIS  
FAULT!  
IT'S ALL  
HIS FAULT!"

YOU  
HAVEN'T  
CHANGED...

STOPPING  
YOUR EARS,  
CLOSING YOUR  
EYES...

SHUTTING  
YOURSELF  
OFF FROM  
THE WORLD  
WITH YOUR  
HATRED OF  
YUKI.

IS THAT THE  
ONLY WAY  
YOU WANT  
TO LIVE?

"THEN  
YOU'LL BE  
SATISFIED,  
RIGHT?"

"I'LL KILL  
HIM AND  
THEN  
I'LL KILL  
MYSELF!"

WILL YOU  
LOSE HER,  
OR WILL  
YOU NOT?

I WILL  
HELP YOU  
FIND THE  
ANSWER.

YOU'RE  
WRON--

YOU  
LEAVE ME  
NO OTHER CHOICE.

I WILL TAKE  
AWAY YOUR  
MEANS OF  
ESCAPE.

...WHETHER  
OR NOT YOUR  
BIRTHRIGHT  
REALLY  
MAKES YOU  
"WORTHLESS."

...DISCOVER  
FOR YOUR-  
SELF...

KYO...

...THE TRUTH  
IS, YOU DO NOT  
WANT HER TO  
KNOW YOUR  
TRUE FORM.

YOU ARE  
AFRAID  
OF LOSING  
HER IF SHE  
FINDS OUT.

THE WARM  
FEELING YOU  
COMPARED TO  
"DROWNING IN  
LUKEWARM  
WATER"...

...YOU KNOW  
THAT IT WILL  
HEAL YOU.

BUT...

YOU ARE JUST  
TRYING TO RUN  
AWAY FROM THAT  
UNCERTAINTY.

DON'T LOOK...



"I  
WON'T  
LET  
ANYONE  
SEE  
YOU."

"NO ONE  
LOOK..."

DON'T  
LOOK...

...AT  
MY  
CHILD.

IT'S ALL  
RIGHT...

I LOVE  
YOU,  
LITTLE  
ONE.



# Chapter 33

"AND WHAT'S THAT SMELL?"

"HE SMELLS TERRIBLE."

"IS THIS..."

"...THE CAT SPIRITS..."

"IT SMELLS LIKE SOMETHING'S ROTTING."

"HIS BODY'S ALL WARPED AND UGLY."

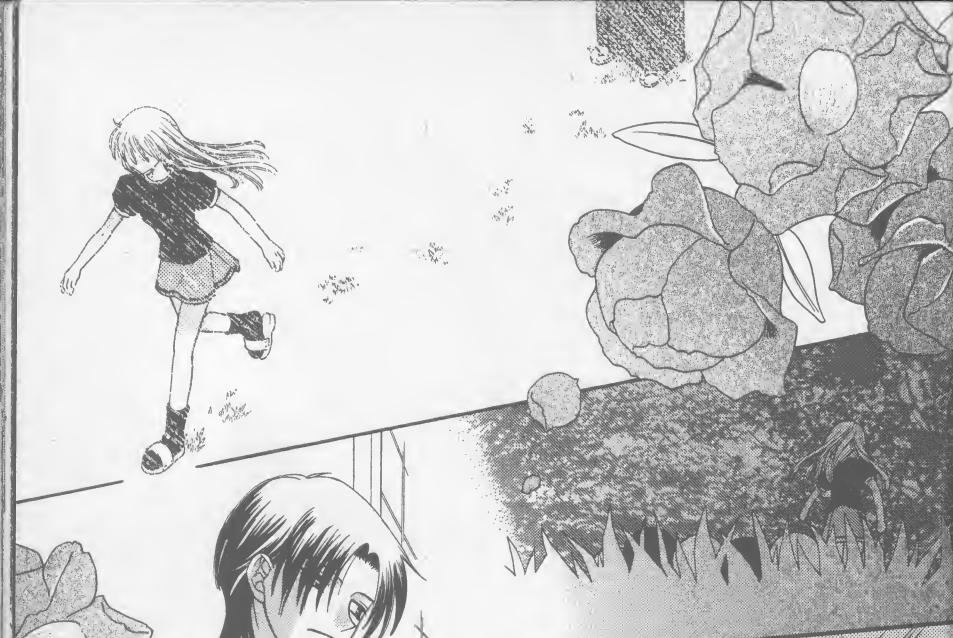
"THIS IS KYO'S TRUE FORM?"

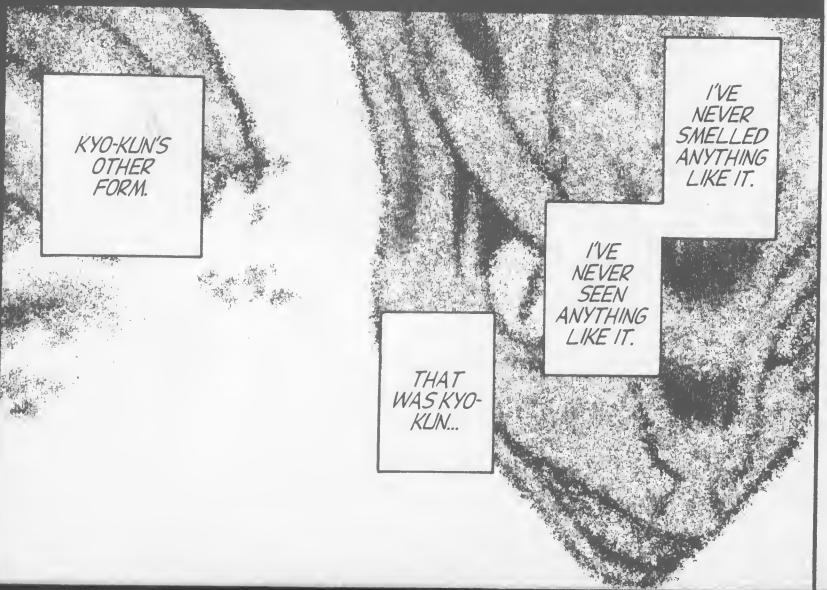
**DON'T  
LOOK  
AT  
ME!!**

"IT'S DISGUSTING."











Fruits Basket 6  
Part 3:

I'm still in the middle of SUMMON NIGHT. But HARUKANARU TOKI NO NAKA DE was amazing. This might be the fastest I've ever completed a game. I think the captures I made might have even been helpful to someone. (Don't flatter yourself. They weren't.) And again, my Playstation's in bad shape, so there were sound issues. Such a tragedy... Still, I played as if entranced. I love Tomomasa-san and Inori-kun. (Those two don't match, Takaya.) I can't wait to play ANGELIQUE TROIS. There should be a lot more of them! I love Love-sim games! They fill my heart with joy. Even when a game isn't a love-sim, I like it when designers throw in a little romance. Yay!





THAT SHE'LL NEVER WANT TO LOOK BACK!

...THAT SHE'LL NEVER FEEL SORRY FOR ME AGAIN.

I'LL MAKE IT SO BAD...

"AKITO'S WRONG. YOU ARE HUMAN, LIKE EVERYONE ELSE."

HAVING THIS FATE FORCED ON ME.

BEING MISERABLE...

I HATE THIS!

"YOU'RE JUST UNDER AN EVIL SPELL FOR A LITTLE WHILE THAT MAKES YOU TURN INTO THAT."

LOSING HER, BEING PITIED...

GET LOST!!

I CAN'T STAND TO LOOK AT YOU!!

YOU DRIVE ME CRAZY!

...I'LL MAKE IT SO BAD, I'LL HURT HER SO MUCH...

NEXT TIME I'LL CUT YOUR FACE TO PIECES!!

...THAT IT COULDN'T POSSIBLY HURT ANY MORE!

DON'T FORCE  
THAT LOVE  
ON ME!

I DON'T  
NEED IT...  
I DON'T  
NEED IT!

I DON'T CARE  
IF YOU FIND  
ME SCARY...

YOUR MOTHER  
LOVED YOU  
MORE THAN  
ANYONE!!

"IF IT WOULD  
HELP YOU, YOUR  
MOTHER..."

...WOULD DIE  
FOR YOU!"

WHY DO YOU  
ALWAYS SAY  
THINGS LIKE  
THAT?

YOU  
WON'T EVEN  
ACKNOWLEDGE  
THE REAL  
ME...

STOP  
IT!!

...MORE  
THAN  
ANYTHING  
ELSE...

...I JUST...

...SO WHY ARE  
YOU ALWAYS  
ACTING LIKE  
YOU LOVE ME  
SO MUCH?

THAT'S  
NOT TRUE.

"YOU'RE MY  
SON AND I'M  
SO PROUD  
OF YOU."

IF IT WAS,  
WHY DIDN'T  
YOU EVER  
LET ME GO  
OUTSIDE?

"YOU'RE SO  
CUTE, I WON'T  
LET ANYONE  
ELSE SEE  
YOU."

YOU WERE  
ASHAMED,  
WEREN'T  
YOU?

NO, I  
LOVE  
YOU.

YOU  
REALLY  
WERE  
SCARED,  
WEREN'T  
YOU?

"AS  
PROOF,  
LOOK..."

"IT'S  
ALL  
RIGHT."

THAT'S  
WHY  
EVERY  
DAY,  
DOZENS  
OF TIMES

...YOU  
CHECKED  
TO MAKE  
SURE MY  
BEADS  
HADN'T  
COME OFF,  
RIGHT?

THAT'S  
A LIE.

"I'M NOT  
SCARED  
A BIT."





BUT, MOM...

YOU ALWAYS  
TOLD ME  
THAT YOU  
LOVED ME,  
BUT YOU  
WOULDN'T  
EVEN LOOK  
AT ME.

BECAUSE  
BEING  
SCARED...

...IS PROOF  
THAT YOU'RE  
ACTUALLY  
LOOKING AT  
MY UGLINESS.

...ALL  
ALONG.

TO HAVE  
SOMEONE  
TO SHARE MY  
WORRIES  
WITH.

DID YOU  
REALLY  
THINK IT WAS  
ENOUGH TO  
JUST TALK  
LIKE YOU  
LOVED ME?

THIS IS  
WHAT I  
WANTED...

LET'S GO  
ON LIVING...

BUT EVEN  
SO...

IT'S OKAY IF  
YOU DON'T  
LOVE MY  
HIDEOUS  
SELF.

IT'S OKAY  
IF YOU'RE  
SCARED.

...TOGETHER.

Y...

"IT'S  
OKAY TO BE  
SELFISH  
ONCE IN A  
WHILE."

DIDN'T  
YOU SAY  
THAT TO  
ME?

YOU  
DON'T HAVE  
TO...LOVE  
EVERYTHING.

IT'S OKAY...

...IF YOU  
WERE  
SCARED.

IT'S  
OKAY...



I DON'T...

HOW CAN  
I ASK FOR  
THAT?

...DESERVE  
SOMETHING  
LIKE THAT.

YOU ENDED UP  
NEAR ME BY  
MISTAKE.

...I WANT  
TO CARE  
FOR YOU.

THIS  
TIME...

THIS TIME  
WILL BE  
DIFFERENT.

...STAY  
NEAR ME...

...WOULD  
SOMEONE  
LIKE YOU...

KYO-  
KUN...?

WHY...

...THE UGLY  
EMOTIONS  
INSIDE ME...

JUST  
LIKE  
THAT...

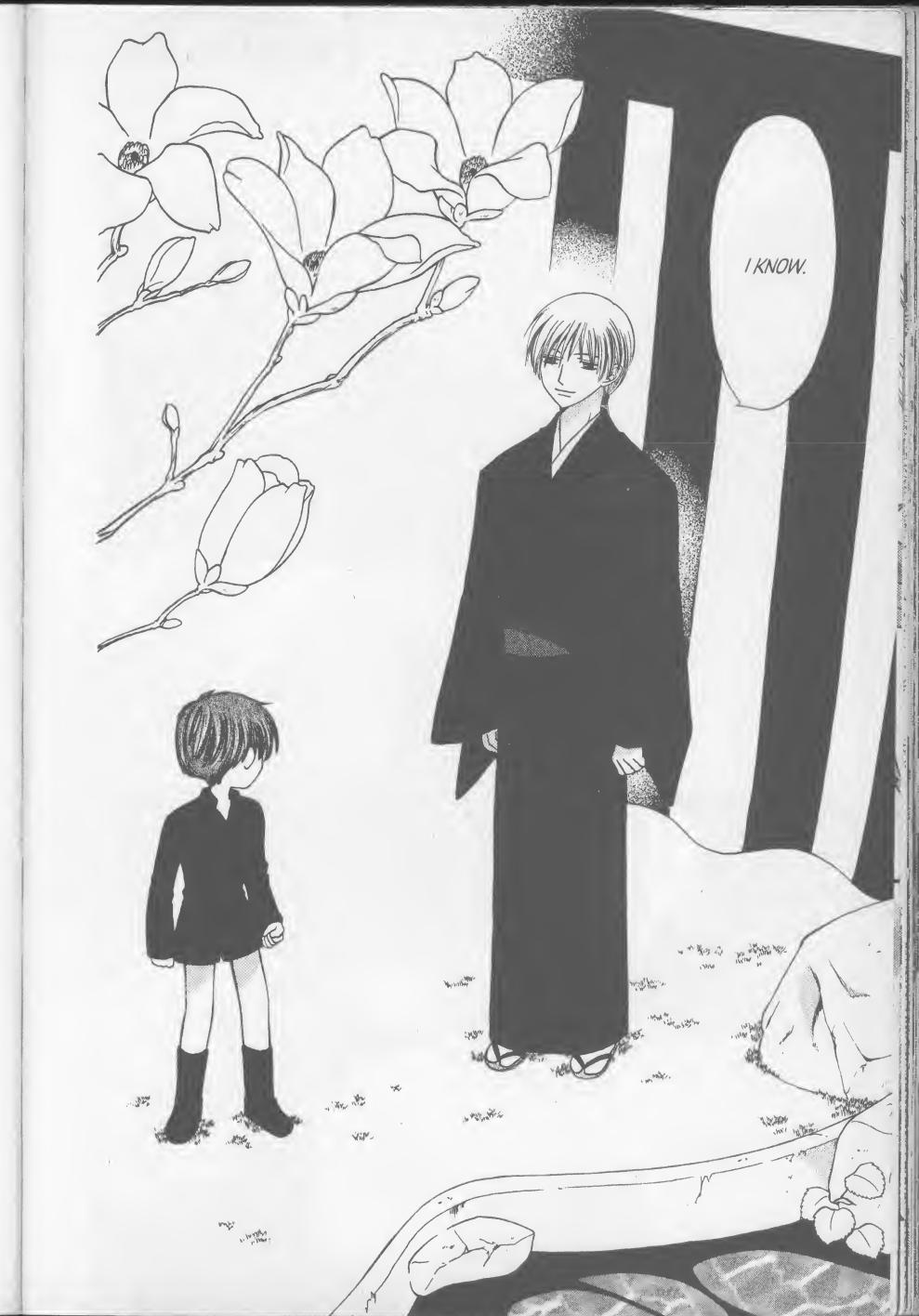
...THE MUD-  
COVERED  
ANXIETY...

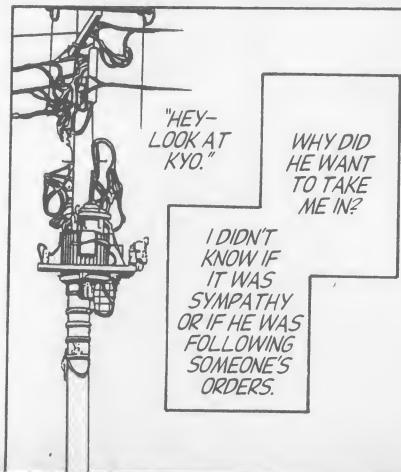
ONE BY ONE,  
YOU MELT  
THEM AWAY.

...AND  
CRY FOR  
ME?

# Chapter 34











Fruits Basket 6  
Part 4:

As I'm writing this, FF9 still hasn't come out. Just a little longer. Finally, the most dangerous game... The game that I will put everything aside for, even eating... No, if I get too hungry, I will eat. (So you will eat!)

There are things in the world whose power to draw you in is strong. Things that fill you with anticipation are the strongest of all. Like Square-san's games. Y'know? You think, "I'm sleepy... I'm sleepy, but... I have to know what happens next!" Goodness gracious. And GRANDIA 2 is coming out! I'm so happy I could scream. And a Dreamcast version of SAKURA TAISEN is on its way, so I scream even more. Aaah, there aren't enough hours in the day! (laugh)











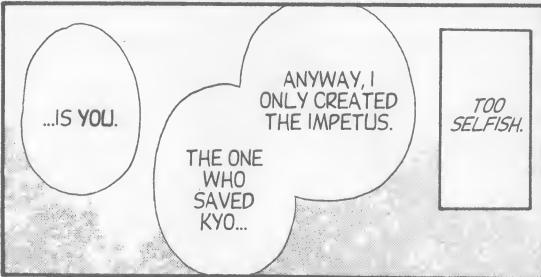
...REALLY JUST YOUR WILL?



I DON'T KNOW WHY...

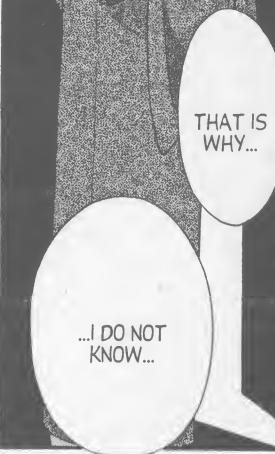


...WHAT I COULD HAVE SAID.



...MY FEELINGS WOULD JUST BE A BURDEN.

FOR POOR KYO...

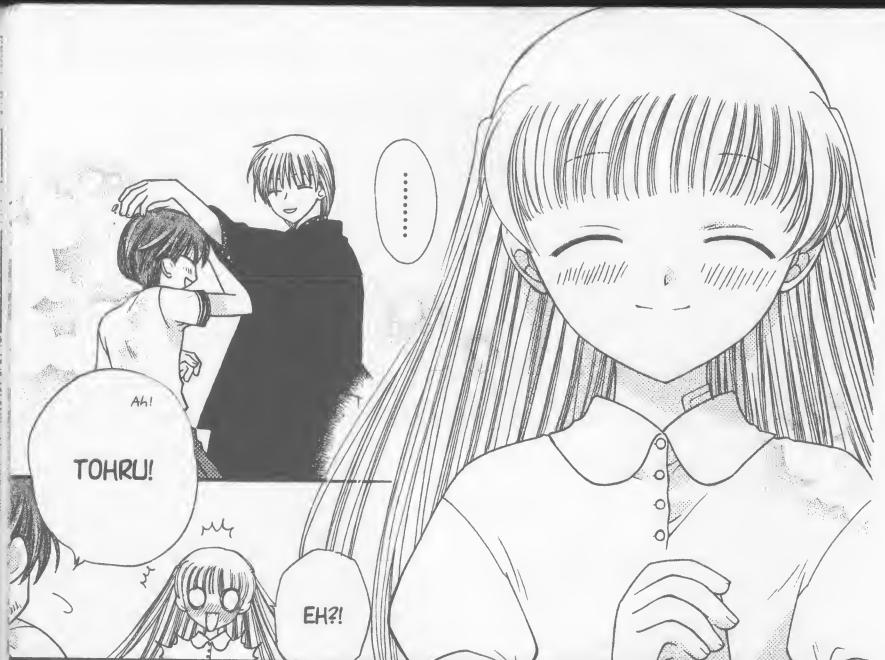










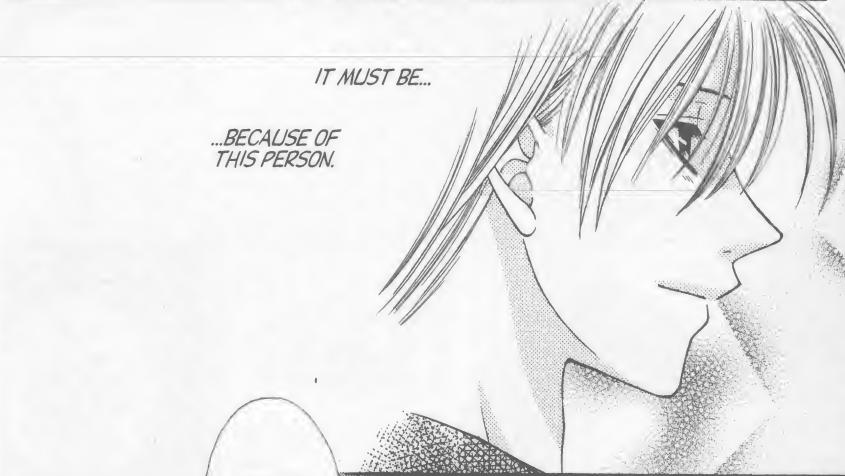


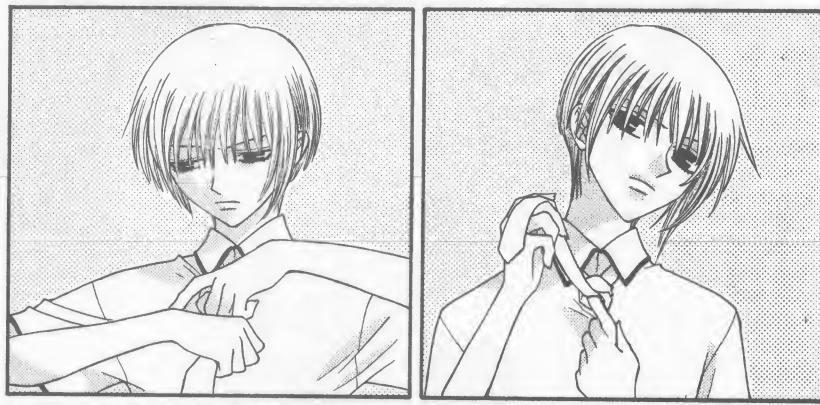
# Chapter 34



IT MUST BE...

...BECAUSE OF  
THIS PERSON.

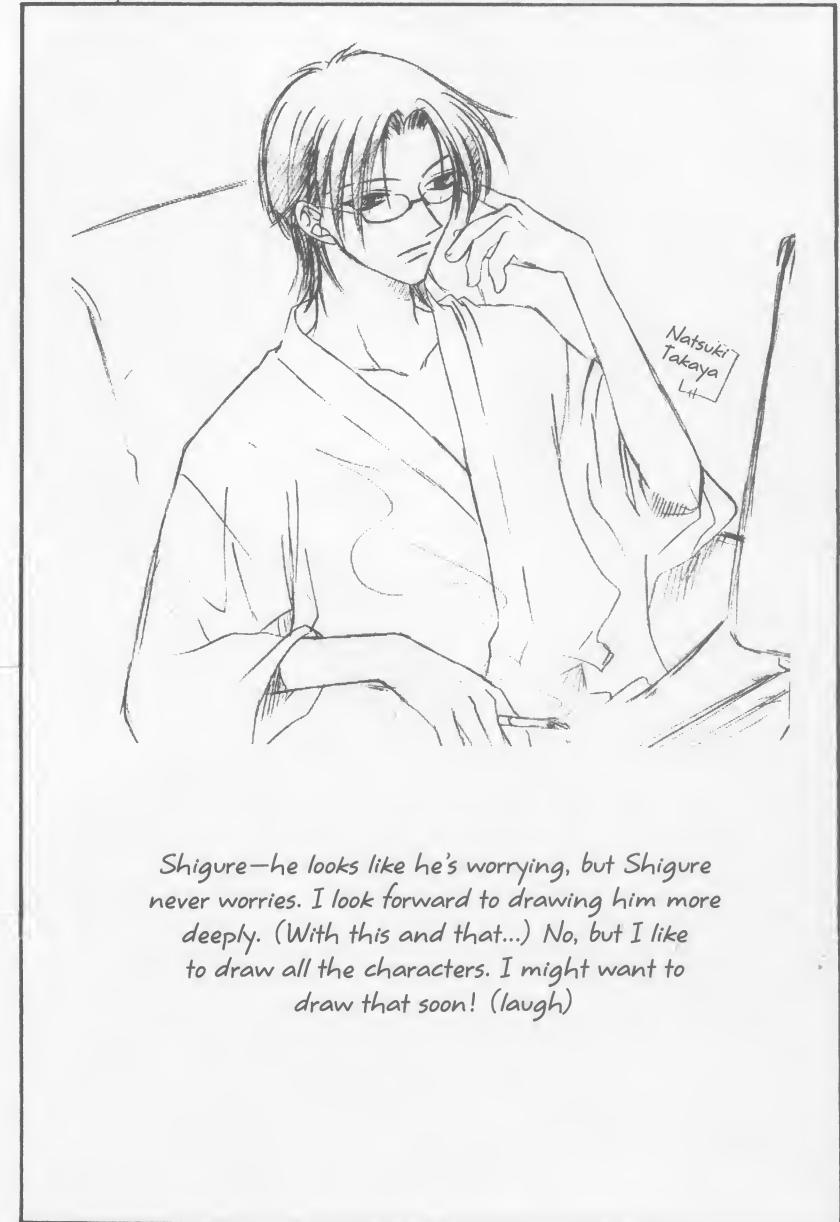


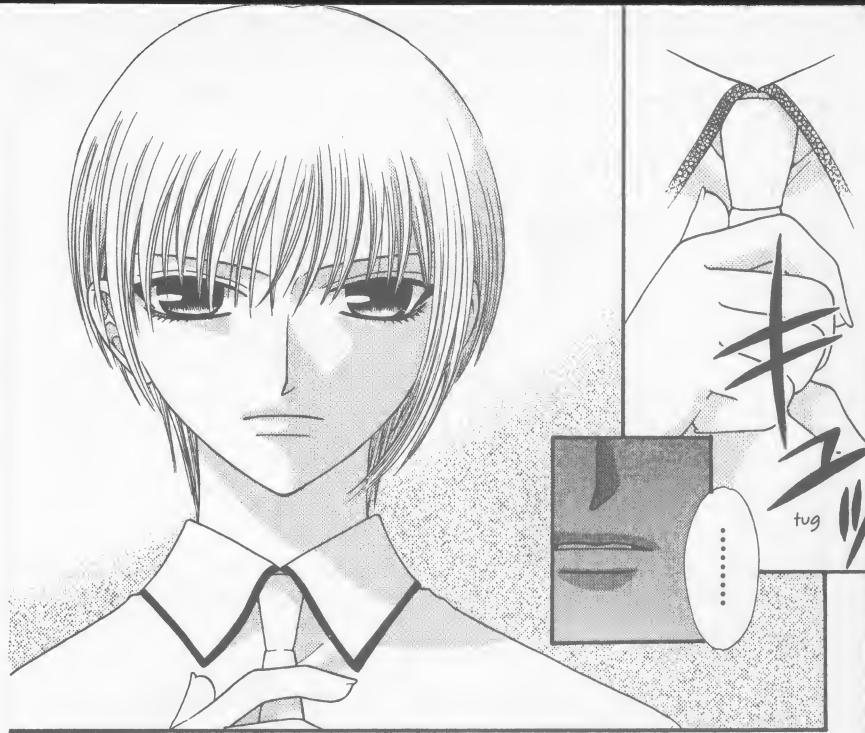


### ULTRA-SPECIAL BLAH BLAH BLAH 3

Aaya is worrying about his brother in his own special way (laugh). Holding a crab claw... By the way, the colors are all secretly unified. There's no really deep meaning in it.

People say...





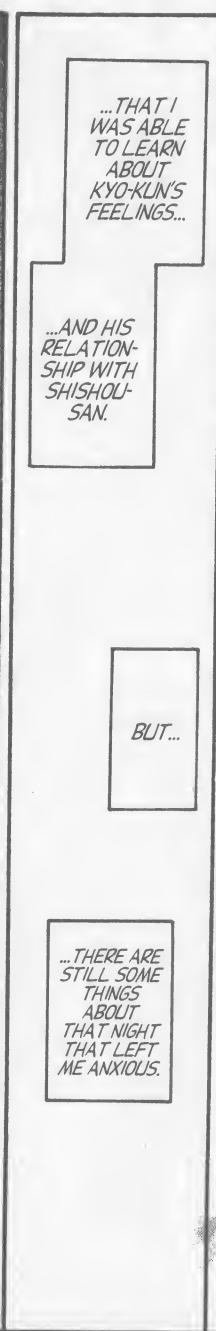
Fruits Basket 6  
Part 5:

Ahh, I can't move my hand anymore... I have to go to the doctor. "VALKYRIE PROFILE is a wonderful game, isn't it?" I thought. No, oh how do I explain it, the system and everything... come to think of it, I don't really have anything to say about it.

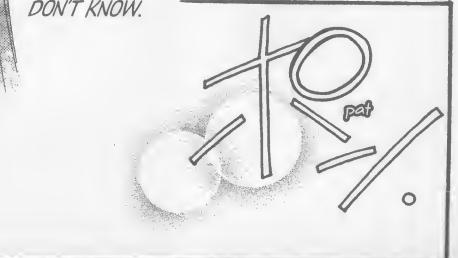
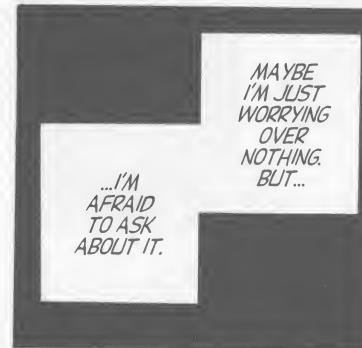
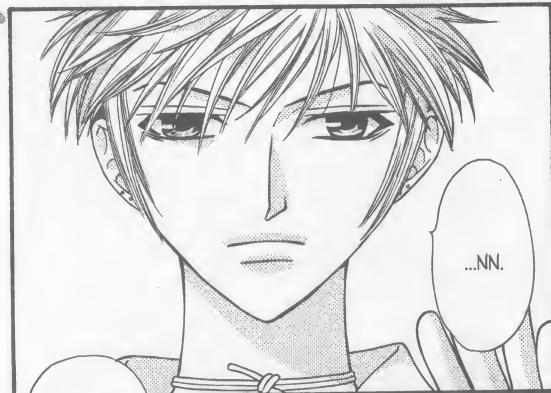
When Lucian dropped a broken crystal (it ended up broken), I got chills. That may not have anything to do with it, though. (laugh) Now that I think of it, I keep all the games I've beaten. All those jewel cases and cartridges, you know? They're taking up so much space it's not even funny! I don't know what to do with them. I just can't throw them away. It's a conundrum.





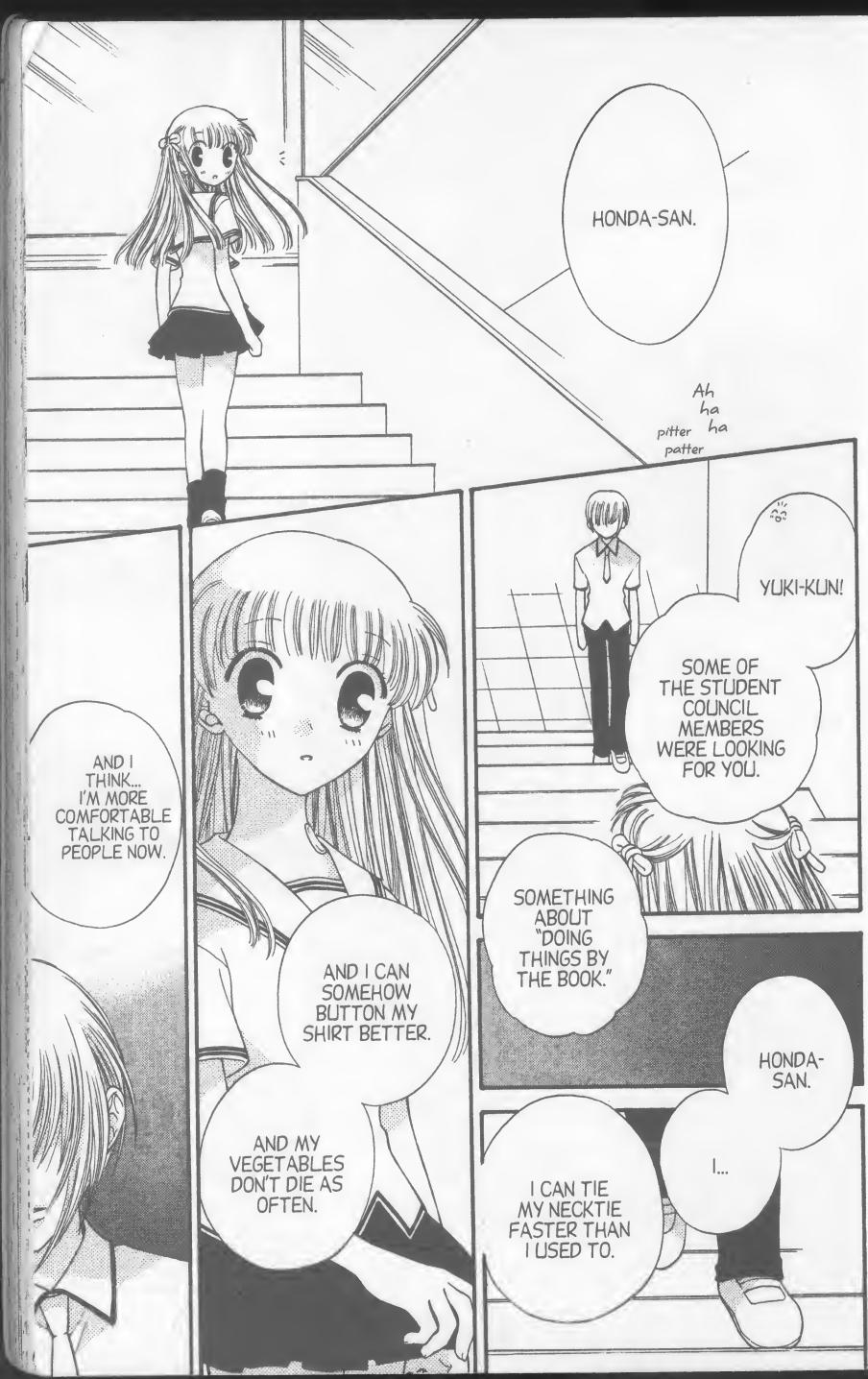


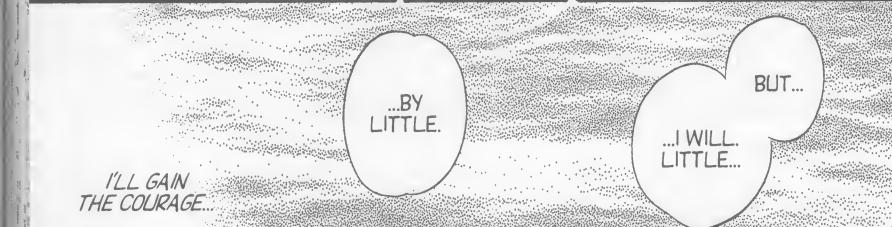












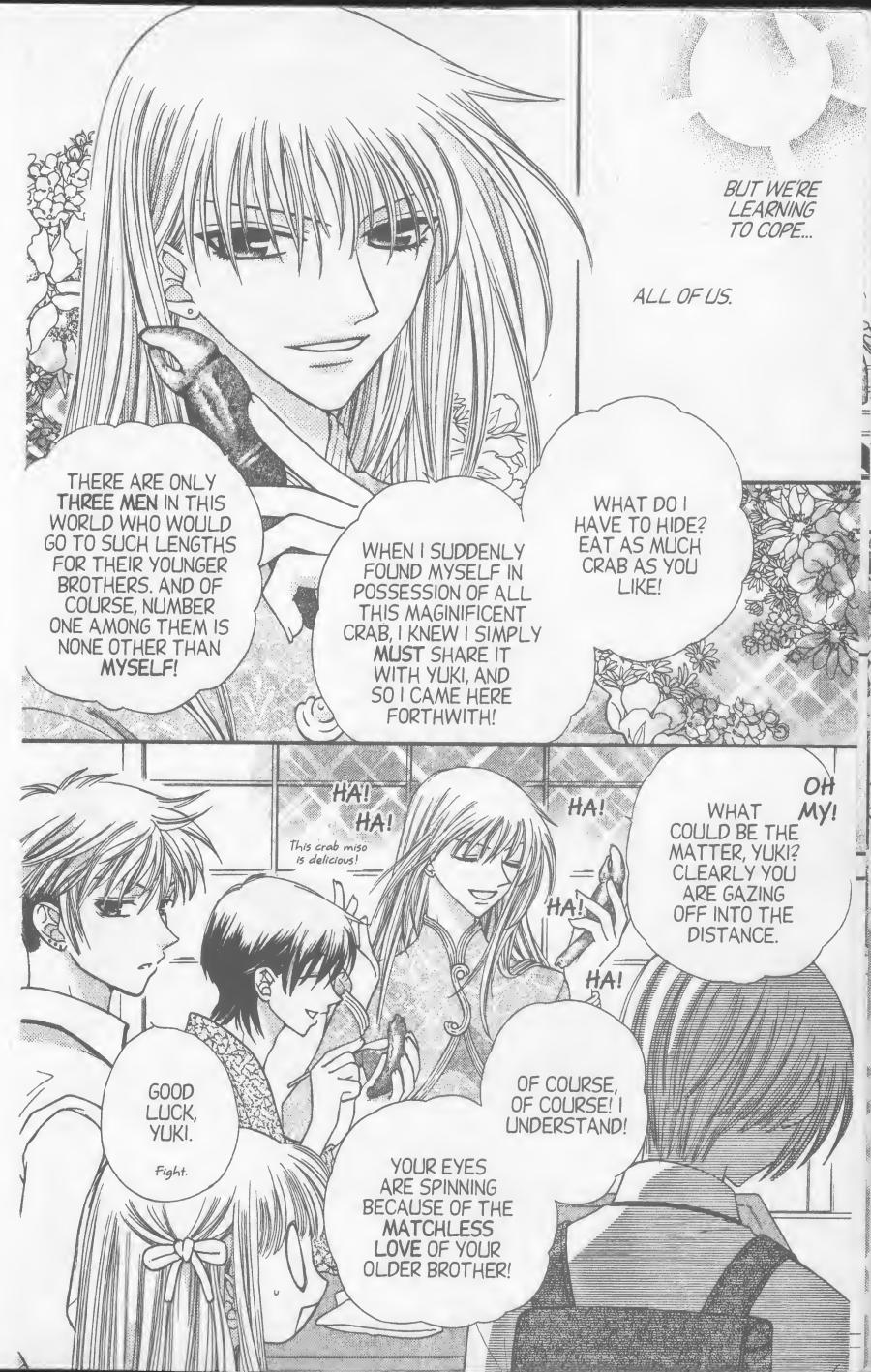


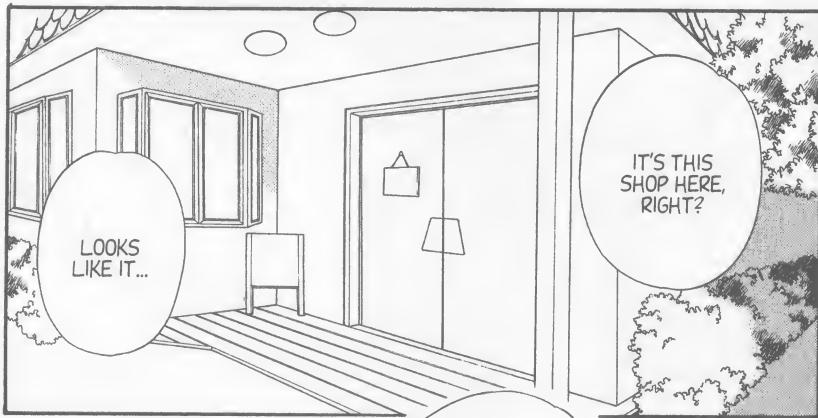






## Chapter 36



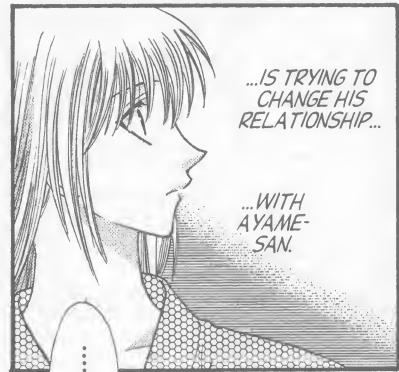


#### ULTRA-SPECIAL BLAH BLAH BLAH 4

Ever since I started drawing this manga, I thought, "I want to draw a color picture of Kyo smiling!" And so, his first smile. That doesn't mean he'll always be smiling, though. This boy really is hopeless. (laugh)

I feel so grateful!

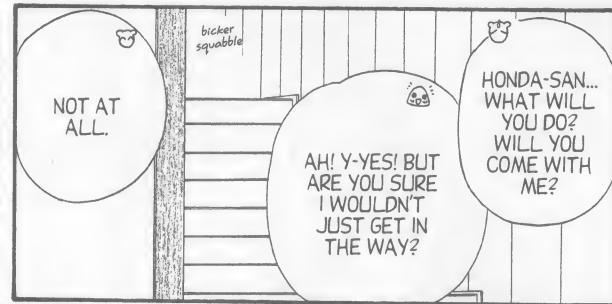




\*Nii-san: older brother

Fruits Basket 6  
Part 6:

In the last volume, I talked about what kind of snacks I liked at the time, but since then I've moved from "fugashi" to "egg booro" and now it's Choco-Balls (with caramel!). What toy did it come with...? Since I was a kid, it made me wonder. I was one of those kids who thinks, "I wanna hurry and grow up!" There were a lot of reasons, and one of them was, "So I'll be able to eat as many 'cucumber shrimp sen' as I want!" In hindsight, that's a pretty petty reason to want to grow up (laugh). But now that I can buy things with money I earned myself, that dream has come true. It was a very happy revelation.



↑ He knew he had a shop, but he had no idea what it sold.







MAIDS  
AND NURSES,  
WAITRESSES  
AND STEWAR-  
DSES AND  
SECRETARIES!

SAILOR SUITS  
AND CAT EARS,  
RABBIT EARS...  
THERE'S TOO  
MANY TO LIST!

IN THESE  
SIMPLE FASHIONS,  
MEN CHASE THEIR  
DREAMS AND BRING  
THEIR ROMANTIC  
FANTASIES TO LIFE!  
THERE'S NO CRIME  
IN PURSUING YOUR  
DREAMS TO ESCAPE  
THE HARSH REALITY  
OF LIFE.

IT'S NO  
DIFFERENT  
FROM THE  
ROMANTIC LINGERIE  
TO PEEK INTO A  
WOMAN'S BATH!!

## MEN'S ROMANCE!

THAT'S  
ILLEGAL!!

WHY  
ARE THEY  
ALL THOSE  
KIND OF  
CLOTHES?

Out  
with it.

WHAT  
DO YOU  
THINK,  
YUKI?

GO AHEAD.  
YOU MAY  
PRAISE ME AS  
WELL.

SO THIS IS  
WHAT HATSU-  
HARU-SAN WAS  
TALKING ABOUT!

AMAZING...!  
IT'S AMAZING,  
AYAME-SAN!

But of  
course!

I AM  
AMAZING!!

BUT OF COURSE!  
IT MAY  
BE DIFFICULT FOR  
YOU TO UNDERSTAND  
NOW, YUKI, BUT  
THESE ARE ALL  
FORMS OF...

THEY'RE...  
POPULAR  
...?

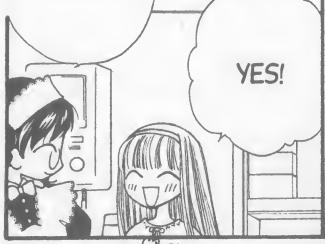
BECAUSE  
THEY'RE VERY  
POPULAR!

The maid is the  
most popular.





YES!



NOW THE TWO BROTHERS CAN SPEND SOME QUALITY TIME ALONE.



BECAUSE WHAT BOSS IS MOST AFRAID OF...

I JUST HOPE THEY CAN TALK WITHOUT FIGHTING.

OH!  
A FIGHT WOULD BE GOOD!!

IT'S PROOF THAT THEY'RE ACTUALLY ACKNOWLEDGING EACH OTHER!

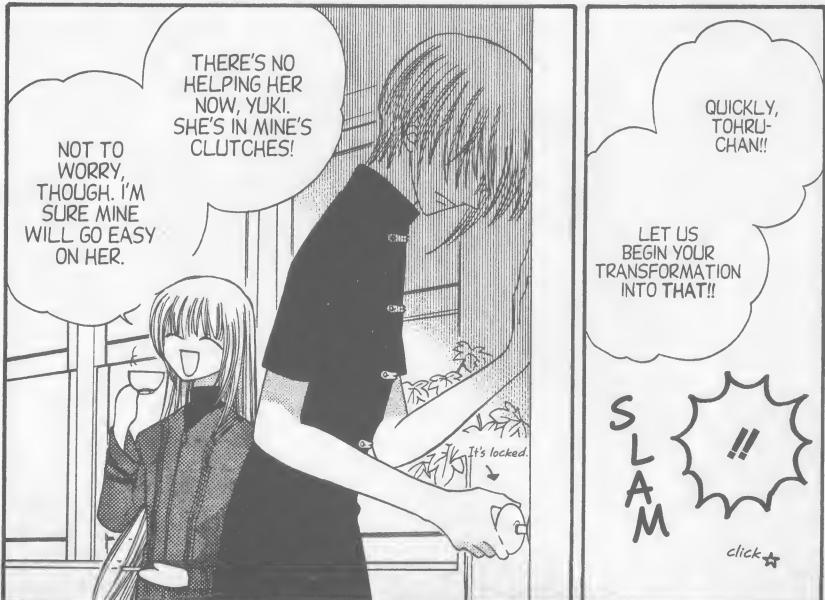


OTOUTO-KUN!! WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TOHRU-CHAN TO WEAR?! DEFINITELY SOMETHING PROPER...

PLEASE, HOLD ON! KURAMAE-SAN!

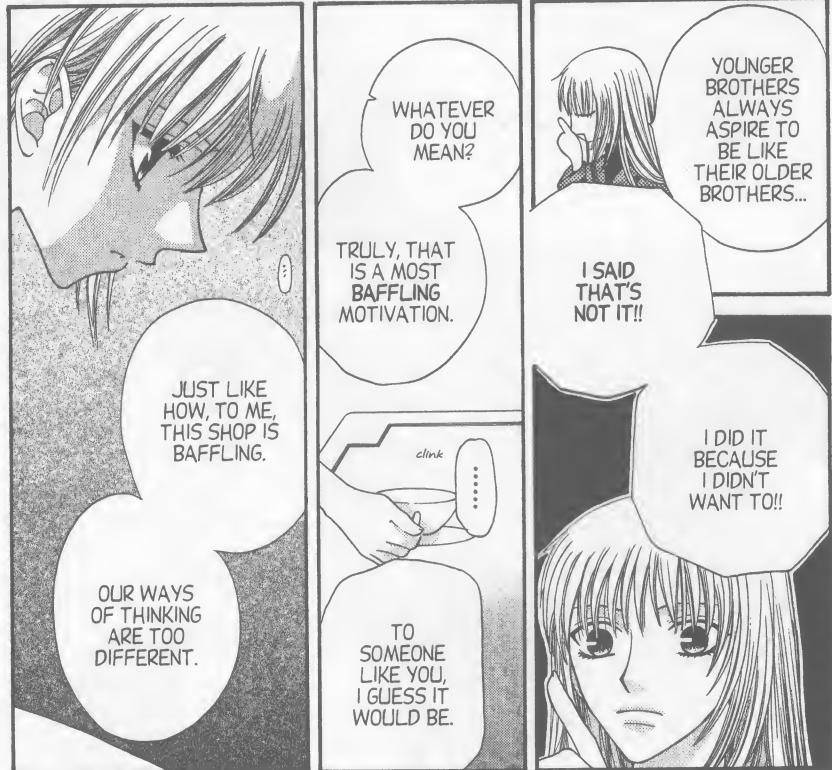


MINE, I THINK IN THIS CASE, THAT ONE WOULD BE THE BEST.



NOT TO WORRY, THOUGH. I'M SURE MINE WILL GO EASY ON HER.



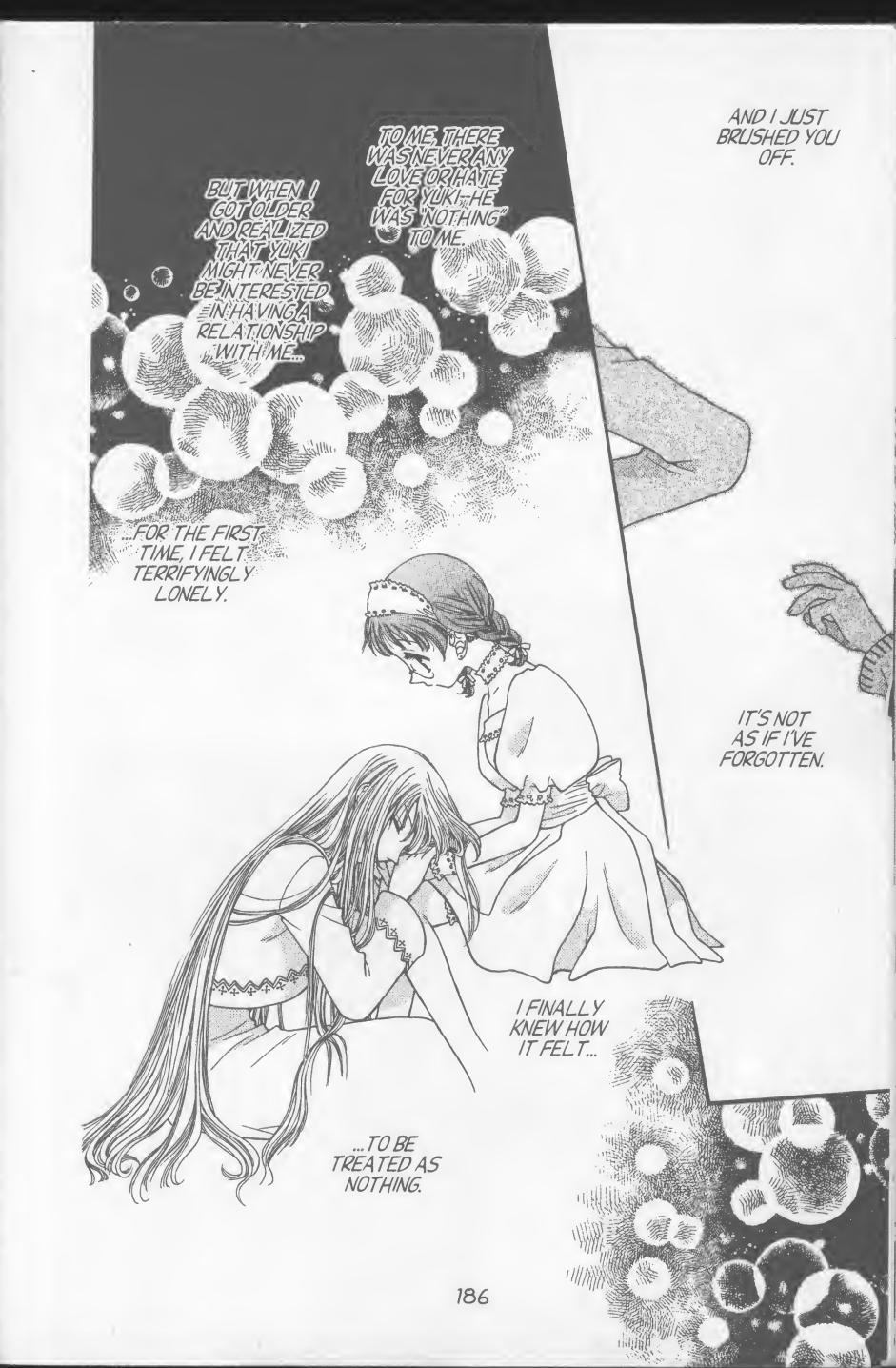


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182







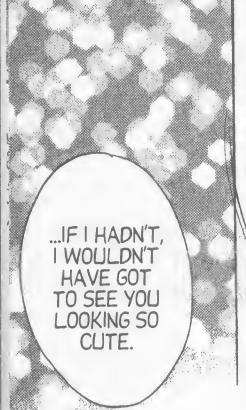
D  
O  
N  
T  
!!





I...I SEE.

HE'S LIKE AN UNSTOPPABLE FORCE OF NATURE. IT'S USELESS TO FIGHT IT. WHEN I TRY, I JUST GET EXHAUSTED.



IF I HADN'T, I WOULDN'T HAVE GOT TO SEE YOU LOOKING SO CUTE.



BESIDES ...



SOMEHOW... SAYING THAT MAKES ME SAD...

BUT...

...IN SPITE OF THAT...

...I'M GLAD I CAME.





Next time in...

# Fruits Basket



7

Mitsuki Takiya

New kid on the block...

Tohru and company have been having a lot more fun ever since Kisa came to visit. Now it's time for Tohru to meet another member of the Zodiac--the skillfully sarcastic grade-school student, Hiro! One way or another, this tyke will have to deal with his resentment of Tohru and his affection for Kisa!

Fruits Basket Volume 7  
Available February 2005



To be continued in Volume 7...

# Year of the Rabbit: Splitting Hares



Men born in the year of the Rabbit tend to be courteous and refined, and carry themselves like true gentlemen. They are resourceful, and are often sought out for their strong advice, but they tend to think quite unrealistically and have a hard time dealing with misfortune.

Female Rabbits tend to be very serious people, but they love company. Among friends, they are very considerate and caring; however, when it comes to their taste in men, women rabbits tend to be more insecure, dating guys who shower them with gifts.

## Celebrity Rabbits:

Tori Amos  
Aaron Carter  
Phoebe Cates  
Whitney Houston  
Angelina Jolie  
Mark McGwire  
Mike Myers  
Bugs Bunny

## Rabbit

**Years:** 1989, 1951, 1963, 1975, 1987, 1999, 2011, 2023, 2035

**Positive Qualities:** sympathetic, affectionate, humble, creative, optimistic

**Negative Qualities:** too sentimental, avoids conflict

**Suitable Jobs:** Diplomat, Lawyer, College Professor, Actor

**Compatible With:** Sheep, Boar and Rat

**Must Avoid:** Rooster, Tiger and Horse

**Ruling Hours:** 5 AM to 7 AM

**Season:** Spring

**Ruling Month:** March

**Sign Direction:** East

**Fixed Element:** Wood

**Corresponding Western Sign:** Pisces

The year of the Rabbit--a calm year where everyone is more leisurely than normal and where days go by at seemingly carefree pace. For anyone born in this year, luck will surely follow. However, like Momiji Sohma, Rabbits often have been seen to have a frail outward appearance because they are so gentle-natured, but deep within they are strong-minded and very idealistic.

Rabbits make great companions, and their marriages are usually free of strife. Rabbits keep a mental record of both a person's good points and their mistakes, but they tend to be very forgiving as long as the mistakes do not have dire consequences. But even as Rabbits are good at offering support and advice, they find it difficult to accept advice or criticism from others. Their desire to avoid conflict can make them come off as overly sentimental or even superficial, making deep emotional connections difficult. But when it happens, the relationships they form are very strong.

\* Note: If you were born in January or early February, then chances are you are probably the animal of the preceding year. The only way to know for certain is to know on which day Chinese New Year's was held. Example: 1987 actually began on January 29, so anyone born between January 1 and January 28 is actually a Tiger.